



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

APVR-RDL-CXF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY ALASKA
600 RICHARDSON DRIVE # 5000
FORT RICHARDSON, ALASKA 99505-5000



JUL 25 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Air Dropping MREs (DOL/DCSLOG Policy Number 4-37)

1. Air-dropped MREs are subject to damage due to pressure at impact. Based on testing, the predicted loss rate could be as high as 25 percent.
2. MREs that are to be air-dropped must be clearly marked (each case) using highly visible nonlead base spray paint. This will insure unused rations are not intermingled with rations that have been air-dropped, when returned to storage.
3. MREs that have been air-dropped and returned to storage must be consumption immediately. Weekly serviceability checks must be conducted, checking for "leaking", foul odors, or other indicators of unserviceable rations until they are consumed.
4. MREs that are frozen and air-dropped will be severely damaged. Inspections have revealed up to 47 percent of air-dropped frozen rations within a lot are damaged. A 100 percent rework of air-dropped frozen rations is recommended prior to return to storage. The remaining rations after rework must be closely checked for immediate consumption. The Army Veterinary Services will provide guidance on the procedure for reworking MREs.
5. Frozen or air-dropped MREs recommended for immediate consumption must be used within a reasonable time period. In all cases when the MRE is air-dropped in the frozen state and returned to storage, it must be used prior to thawing.
6. POC is Gary Rosynek, 384-1741.

THOMAS M. SHEA
COL, TC
Director of Logistics

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